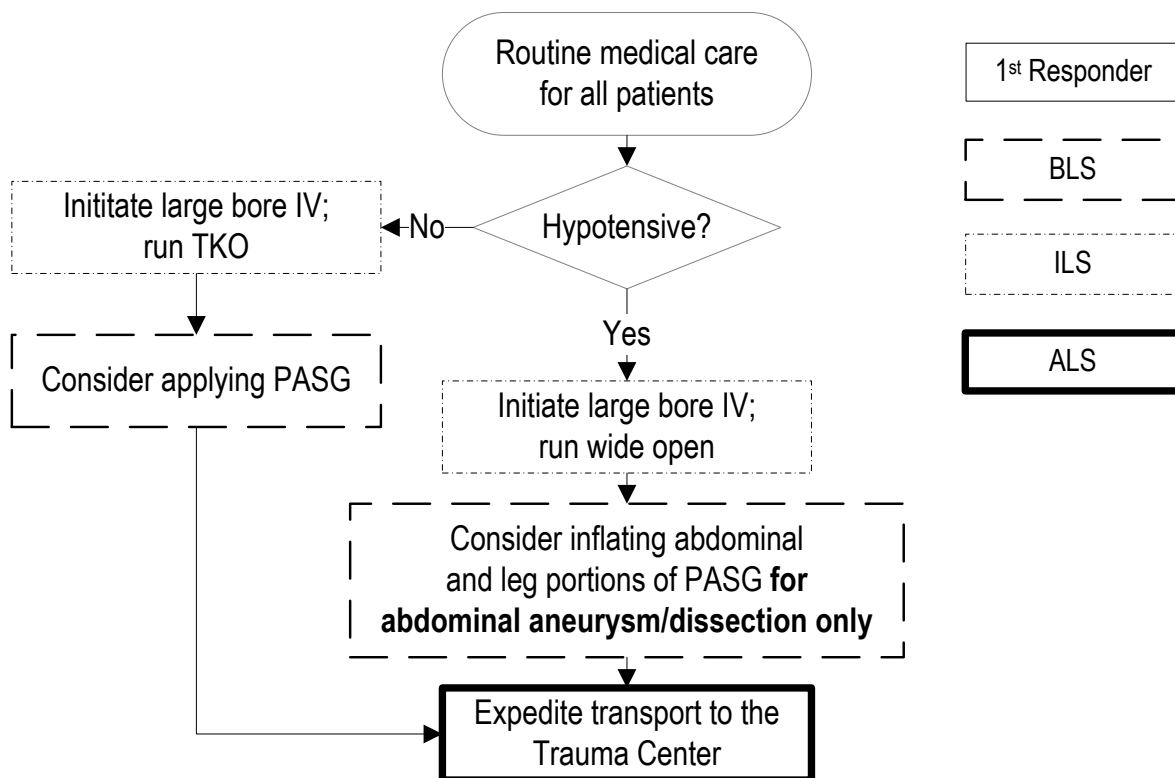


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| Initiated: 3/7/00 |
| Reviewed/revised: 7/1/11 |
| Revision: 4 |

**MILWAUKEE COUNTY EMS
STANDARD OF CARE
AORTIC RUPTURE/DISSECTION**

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| Approved by: Ronald Pirrallo, MD, MHSA |
| Page 1 of 1 |

| History: | Signs/Symptoms: | Working Assessment: |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| History of hypertension History of arteriosclerosis Elderly male | Abdominal or back pain Pulsating mass in abdomen "Ripping", "tearing", "sharp" pain Unequal pulses in left and right pedal pulse points Hyper- or hypotension | Abdominal aortic aneurysm/ dissection |
| | Chest pain "Ripping", "tearing", "sharp" pain Distended neck veins (JVD) Unequal pulses in left and right radial pulse points Narrow pulse pressure Different blood pressures in left and right arms Hyper- or hypotension | Thoracic aortic aneurysm/ dissection |



NOTES:

- PASG is contraindicated in thoracic aneurysm/dissection.
- Rapid transport to the closest appropriate facility is mandatory for all suspected aortic aneurysms and dissections. These patients may need immediate surgery.
- Aortic aneurysms occur most often in elderly males with a history of hypertension and/or arteriosclerosis.
- Thoracic aortic aneurysms may have signs and symptoms of stroke or myocardial infarction.